SUMMER FUN
Pulse lays out the best activities for break page 8

The Shakerite

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Opinion analyzes the truth (or lies) in TV media page 3

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Living wills evoke student exploration

By Adam Weinstein
NEWS EDITOR

The question of whether people have a right to decide when to die dates back to biblical times. But for Luisana Rojas-Rodriguez, Amanda Artman and the dozen or so students they are presenting to, the question still exists today.

"When we had to pick a civil action plan, we wanted to do something nobody had done before," said junior Rojas-Rodriguez, who is a student in Mark Hoskins' Bioethics class.

Ever since the death of Terry Schaivo, the debate surrounding end-of-life issues has intensified. Special living will magazines are being sold at certain grocery store chains, and the Internet teems with free living wills ready for downloading. According to Rojas-Rodriguez, her group chose this project before the Schaivo case became popular because they wanted to educate students on this issue before they are faced with it. The project that focused on how living wills work was presented to an audience of students April 25 after school in room 253B.

"Assisted suicide is when a patient asks the physician to assist them in dying. A person is asking for it, so some people say euthanasia in

SEE LIVING WILL PAGE 3

Dan Snider • THE SHAKERITE

BIOETHICS STUDENTS AMANDA Artman and Luisana Rojas-Rodriguez prepare for their discussion on living wills. The forum was part of a civil action plan project the presented in class April 25.

Reaching for the Light

· Ensemble performance showcases theater movement and improvisation

By Liz Kantor
ARTS EDITOR

The April 28-30 Ensemble show, "Hands of Light" offered "a renewed commitment to a life not overshadowed by fear, but instead responsive to the world and to genuine contact with other human beings."

The theme "comes out of students and the time we live in," theater arts teacher Eric Johnson said. Students in Senior, Advanced and Junior Ensemble performed. The class helps them develop theater movement skills.

"Warm-up, movement or talk about different poems, songs or about life in general," are among the activities in Advanced Ensemble, said sophomore Laurel Van-Metre.

Sophomore Nick Stagno, a Senior Ensemble member, said much of the Senior Ensemble performances are improvisational.

"[No act] is really choreographed to the end, but the songs are rehearsed," Stagno said.

For Johnson, the hardest part was the curtain call – the moment when the performers took a collective bow at the conclusion of the show.

"The curtain call for any show has to look like you're so happy to be there," Johnson said. "It's not until students do it once or twice that they know it's important."

Jaclyn Inglis • THE SHAKERITE

MEMBERS OF SENIOR Ensemble pose during their April 28 performance in the Large Auditorium. The Ensemble program is in its 26th year.

Evacuation was da bomb

By Bobby O'Connor
DESIGN EDITOR

The high school's alarm signal got a workout May 19.

While it did seem strange to hear the signal only one period after it sounded for a tornado drill, most people chalked the repeat up to a desire to hold the May fire drill during nice weather. Few realized the drill actually was an evacuation prompted by a bomb threat intended to divert police attention from an attempted robbery.

After a woman called in to say a bomb would detonate at the high school at 2:45 p.m., her four male associates held up the Shaker Heights Teachers' Credit Union on Lee Road. The FBI believes that these men may be responsible for 15 other bank

SEE BOMB SCARE PAGE 4

Explosive Facts

- The first-known school bombing occurred in Bath, Michigan in May 1927. A farmer blew up the school, killing 38 students and six adults
- Between January 1990 and Feb. 28, 2002, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives reported 1,055 incidents of bombs being used on school grounds
- Only 14 of the 1,055 incidents were accompanied by warnings to school officials

Compiled by Emily Grannis from the Center for Problem Oriented Policing

Can our teams survive without '05?

Sports seniors leaving

- Baseball: 9
- Men's Basketball: 3
- Women's Basketball: 4
- Crew: 7
- Men's Cross Country: 5
- Women's Cross Country: 1
- Field Hockey: 10
- Football: 29
- Men's Golf: 5
- Women's Golf: 1
- Hockey: 12
- Men's Lacrosse: 24
- Women's Lacrosse: 5
- Softball: 5
- Men's Soccer: 13
- Women's Soccer: 6
- Men's Swimming: 6
- Women's Swimming: 5
- Men's Tennis: 5
- Women's Tennis: 4
- Men's Track: 10
- Women's Track: 8
- Volleyball: 4
- Wrestling: 8

By Scott Underwood
SPORTS EDITOR

One month after the University of North Carolina Tar Heels captured the 2005 NCAA basketball championship, the team's key players held a press conference to announce their collective departure for the NBA.

The groans from Chapel Hill could be heard for miles.

When the athletes of Shaker's class of 2005 cross the stage June 9, Raider sports fans and coaches will suffer a similar, sad fate.

While each graduating class leaves gaping holes in varsity rosters, every once in a while a class comes along so athletically dominant that when it graduates, it takes years for the school to return to the glory days they established.

The athletic performances of the class of '05 were exceptional. The hockey team made its way to the state final, a feat not achieved since the 2001 season. Junior lacrosse player Emily George, who played on the 2003 state championship lax team as a freshman, thinks the pending graduation will exact a cost.

"Next year's hockey will definitely feel the loss of so many good seniors," she said.

The Shaker football team also had a stellar season and made it to the playoffs for the first time since 2000. Head Coach Dave Sedmack said this year's seniors did a great job, succeeding despite the challenging schedule they faced.

> "This year's junior class I feel is their athletic equal, if not better"
>
> Peter Elliot
> junior

"In comparison to other Shaker teams I've coached, these guys were right up there." That's high praise coming form a man who has coached the likes of Nate Clements, Pro-Bowl cornerback and punt returner for the Buffalo Bills.

Substantial contributions to team success don't occur without some grumbling. While this year's senior class is athletically talented and has performed exceptionally over four years, some think that they have a monopoly on varsity teams.

Junior Peter Elliott, who runs the 400 meters, thinks that while the abilities of the senior class are impressive, they do not eclipse the other grades.

SEE SENIORS PAGE 11

DROPPING THE F BOMB

FORUM

<< Shaker Speaks

- Do we use profanity too much?

Did you know?

- The F-word comes from the Dutch word *fokke*, which means "to breed."
- The F-word has been incorrectly deemed as an acronym for "For Unlawful Carnal Knowledge," a myth that refers to the phrase medieval prisoners reportedly wore on their clothes.
- The S-word was a medieval medical term for diarrhea.

Miriam Webster Dictionary

Compiled by Kate Guess

"Who says [the F-word] is bad?"

Aaron Ingley
junior

"I think cussing is inappropriately used in school."

Katherine O'Bryon
sophomore

How poignant! When read upside down, the Hebrew-like characters on Josh's [illegible] read, "F- y[illegible]

"People use it as a second vocabulary; and that's annoying."

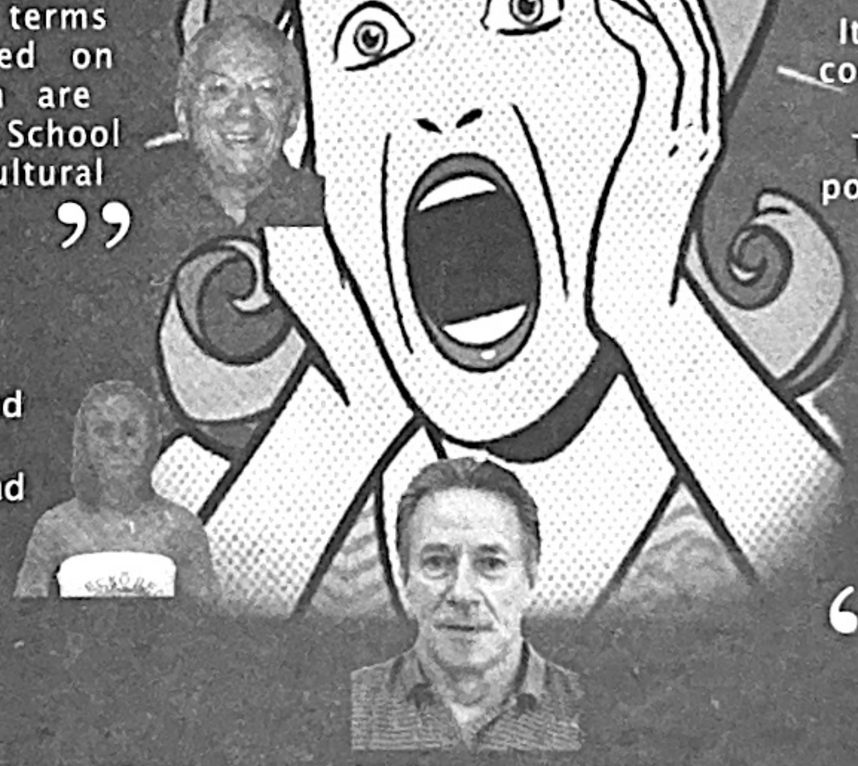
Matt Taylor
junior

"It's OK to cuss, but it's not cool to do it every sentence. They lose their luster. They're only exciting and poignant when used few and far between."

Josh Kramer
junior

"School is a reflection of society. Words and terms not previously allowed on radio and television are now commonplace. School reflects common cultural values."

Terry Pollack
social studies teacher



"It's fine to do it around your friends, but there's a right time and place for things."

Jennifer Polk
sophomore

"We're disrespectful around adults. People should tone it down around teachers."

Ashley Eddie
sophomore

"It's so widely spread, it can only be controlled by peer pressure. People have to step in...teachers need to unify and take a stand...slandering words like the 'n' word upset me, and degrading terms for women."

A.J. Seibert
math teacher

The Shakerite
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NSPA

Fed Challenge team wins second

"It was too many hours to count," senior Anna Dev said of the preparation time for this year's Fed Challenge team.
Dev joined her twin brother, Andre (both are members of last year's national championship team) and Morgan Grossman-McKee, Rebecca Heide, Shan Tie and Diana Wang for the 2005 competition. They battled eight teams and reached the finals, winning second place.
Beginning in February, the team met once a week for three hours, and, as the competition neared, three times a week.
Economics teacher Diana Jones advises the Fed Challenge team.

Caught on screen: cameras up security

• Security downplays observation, says main purpose is recording

By Adam Weinstein
NEWS EDITOR

From convenience stores to Cleveland city stop lights, security cameras have become an accepted part of the modern world. And recently, high school officials have decided to make it more a part of Shaker's world by adding 14 new cameras.

"It's for the safety of staff and the students. Sometimes cameras see things that we cant," Safety Coordinator Vic Ferrell said.

Just this year several computers and DVD players have been stolen from the high school, and thousands of dollars in prom money was stolen from the main office. (The money was later recouped). The cameras were set up right before senior prank week.

Assistant Principal Neil Glazer said there is no special reason for the timing of the installation. He added that the real question is why security, disruption and discipline are the number one concern of parents according to a recent Gallup Poll, a national survey conducted by the Gallup Organization.

"It's number one ahead of things like quality of instruction and availability of textbooks," Glazer said. "Fueling the fire would be looking at the history of the last seven years with private and public schools, starting with Columbine. So, the question is why do we go to extraordinary lengths, including security cameras, and the answer is the number one concern is discipline and security."

Dan Snider • THE SHAKERITE

TWO MONITORS IN the security office offer live footage from surveillance cameras throughout the school. The footage from these cameras is recorded for playback purposes.

Some criticisms of the cameras hinge on the belief that they may not be necessary for a school district such as Shaker.

"I think they're a waste of money that could be used to fix things. I don't think there's a need for them. Stuff goes on in front of the cameras and the guards don't do anything about it," freshman Max Chernin said.

However the administration stands by its stance that the cameras help

"The proof is when we had money [for prom] stolen, we had an arrest within hours because it was caught on tape and the student couldn't even deny it," Glazer said.

Senior Frederique Bruell agrees that surveillance cameras help security at school.

"I think that they definitely inhibited senior pranks this year. A lot of seniors backed down. I think they just intimidate people," Bruell said.

Installing security cameras in school also may lower insurance costs to the district because damages can be accounted for by the perpetrator rather than through the school's insurance itself.

Fights on school grounds will usually lead to suspension for those involved, and the argument of self-defense has rarely saved a student from being suspended. Glazer attributes this rule to the fact that teachers do not witness most fights, so it can't be determined who threw the first punch. Now that cameras catch fights on film the policy may change, but Glazer explains that it will only help those who were truly defending themselves.

"Defending is one thing, but then going to the extreme of beating someone viciously is not defense," Glazer said.

According to Glazer, earlier this school year, a student was upset because his younger brother was frequently being beaten up. He decided that the next time he saw the student attack his brother, he was going to take matters into his own hands. He saw the bully and proceeded to fight with him. Before he was suspended, administrators asked if he did it, and if so, whether he knew he would be suspended for such an action. The student replied, "Yes, and after I come back if it's still happening I'll do it again."

Glazer admits, however, that such confessions are rare and that cameras help clarify how events actually played out.

People often attribute the need for greater security precautions such as security guards and cameras to the increasingly aggressive behavior of teenagers, but Glazer disagrees.

"I think high schoolers are the same; they have been forever. I think what has changed is our own world," Glazer said.

Taking a nail clipper from his pocket for illustration, he added that rules change because times change. Today, he said, one can't even get a nailclipper through airport security.

Chernin also thinks the world has changed, but that part of the problem is that students take school for granted.

"Societies change. Thirty years ago kids thought it was a privilege to come to school," Chernin said.

Glazer stresses the necessity of following rules and guidelines if they are designed for the wellbeing of the school as a whole, and he wants to send that message.

"To students who don't agree with the presence of security cameras I would say, although I think I should be able to carry fingernail clippers on an airplane, I applaud the airport security for banning them in order to keep us safe. I may not think we should have the cameras in the school, but I applaud the effort of the administration. Is it an intrusion on privacy to have cameras? Possibly. But we don't want to be another Columbine."

Ferrell wants to make sure students do not feel the cameras are being used to spy on them and that they are only used as a record in case something does happen.

"We don't watch the cameras often. We let them record. It's all for the betterment of the education. It's not to keep an eye on [students]. I don't want people to think that Shaker is so bad and that is why we need cameras. Most area schools have cameras."

Both Ferrell and Glazer agree that cameras can't solve everything, though.

"There are 1,800 kids in one building. We can't make it a fortress, and we don't want to," Glazer said.

Camera quick takes

- *14 new security cameras have been installed in the high school.*
- *Some locations include the office facing the main entrance, and the stairwell past Room 235 that leads to the athletic facilities.*
- *There are no hidden cameras.*
- *There are computer monitors in the security office that display live camera footage at all times.*
- *Camera footage isn't regularly observed by security personnel but is used more frequently for recording purposes.*
- ***The main office security camera led to the immediate arrest of a student who stole school money.***
- *Security cameras may reduce the costs of school insurance rates.*
- *Most area schools have security cameras.*

Allie Jennings and Bobby O'Connor • THE SHAKERITE

Planned death: is it ever the most ethical thing to do?

FROM LIVING WILL PAGE 1

general is like dying with dignity," Rojas-Rodriguez said.

Hoskins draws a distinction between euthanasia and assisted suicide by noting that the difference lies in the agent of death.

"Agent is defined as the person who administers the means of death. Assisted suicide is when the patient may or may not be the agent of death. Euthanasia is when the doctor is the agent of death," Hoskins said.

During the Schaivo case, political factions, religious organizations and lay people rallied behind each side in a drawn out court battle over whether the woman in a persistent vegetative state should be taken off life support. Rojas-Rodriguez wants to prevent students from struggling in similar circumstances.

"I think the best way to solve the problem or issue is to use the living will. You can't judge other people's situations until you're in those situations."

There are four main approaches to the morality and practicality of this practice. Many humanists support euthanasi on the grounds that it is an individual's right to take her own life in a humane fashion if the living condition is unbearable. Some are afraid that euthanasia and assisted suicide may go too far. The fiercest opposition to euthanasia stems from the belief that it is forbidden in the Bible.

The Christian right often uses a passage from Corinthians, "If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are," to demoralize euthanasia. Many ultra-conservatives believe that the word defile means "destroy" and thus committing suicide is a sin. Critics of this interpretation say personal theology applied to the passage's translation.

"Euthanasia is of extreme interest to conservative and fundamentalist religious values with their dogma being absolutely inflexible and inviolable," Hoskins said.

Hoskins feels there is some hypocrisy over the issue.

"When [Republican House Majority Leader Tom] DeLay entered the Terry Schaivo case, he conveniently forgot the decision he had made to disconnect the life support of one of his loved ones," Hoskins said, referring to the family's decision to remove DeLay's father's life support after an accident left him in a persistent vegetative state. "It has a glaring inconsistency."

> "You can't judge other people's situations until you're in those situations."
>
> Luisana Rojas-Rodriguez
> junior

Rojas-Rodriguez summarized the debate. "Physicians are called murderers, and the people who choose assisted suicide [are judged for] committing suicide, while some people value the quality of life."

She feels the living will is not a matter of morality or ethics, but that every family has to decide end-of-life issues for themselves.

"We're not somebody to judge somebody else's situation. [The living will] is there as an option for you and your family to do," she said.

Hoskins feels the issue is a matter of the right to privacy that should allow one to choose how to die. He feels some are trying to infringe upon this right by attempting to legislate religious values.

The will contains several options for physicians to perfrom in various situations such as, "Administer no life-sustaining treatment, including CPR, except for the provision of artificially or technologically supplied nutrition or hydration unless, in the following paragraph, I have authorized its withholding or withdrawal."

The document is encouraged for use by anyone even if he or she is young or has no medical problems.

"They [teens] should have a living will if they are concerned about how they may die or the process in which they may die. We cannot predict nor control what leads to our death," Hoskins said.

'05 runs pranks past principal to prevent painful punishment

•Students, staff agree this year's pranks were more appropriate

By Adam Weinstein
NEWS EDITOR

Every year before the seniors go on project, there occurs a week that teachers dread, seniors love and the administration tolerates.

Known by students as senior prank week, the days before qualified seniors depart for project are an unofficial opportunity to perform pranks across the school. This year however, a letter was home by Principal Griffith that confused some people. In it he stated that senior prank week did not exist.

"I thought it was kind of a joke. We know it exists because we've been looking forward to it since freshman year," senior Michael Eppich said.

But Griffith said that letter was intended only for underclassman.

"My reference is to the notion of 'prank week' to the student body as a whole. It's a special week that we support and respect as the last week before seniors go on project," Griffith said.

Last year senior prank activities included the throwing of water balloons, the slashing of car tires, numerous stink bombs, and the detonation of one firecracker similar to an M-80. Underclassmen were responsible for many of the disruptions.

Most people agree this year's senior week was far less disruptive.

"This year I thought the week was fantastic, meaning *we didn't have disruption. We had fun, creative activities that seniors engaged in," Griffith said.*

Senior Elizabeth Griffith thinks senior prank week is a good idea. She added that most pranks aren't done very well, but she thinks this year was better than most.

"I think it's a pretty fun week, but usually the pranks are kind of annoying. They are gross and not clever most of the time. So it can be a nuisance," she said.

While some seniors take pranks into their own hands, others seek Griffith's approval beforehand.

"Individuals will come and talk about what they're thinking about doing," Griffith said. "If it is disruptive I will try to talk them out of it. I've never said to anyone, 'You can do this particular prank.' However we do approve of the walk-through chanting of their [graduation] year."

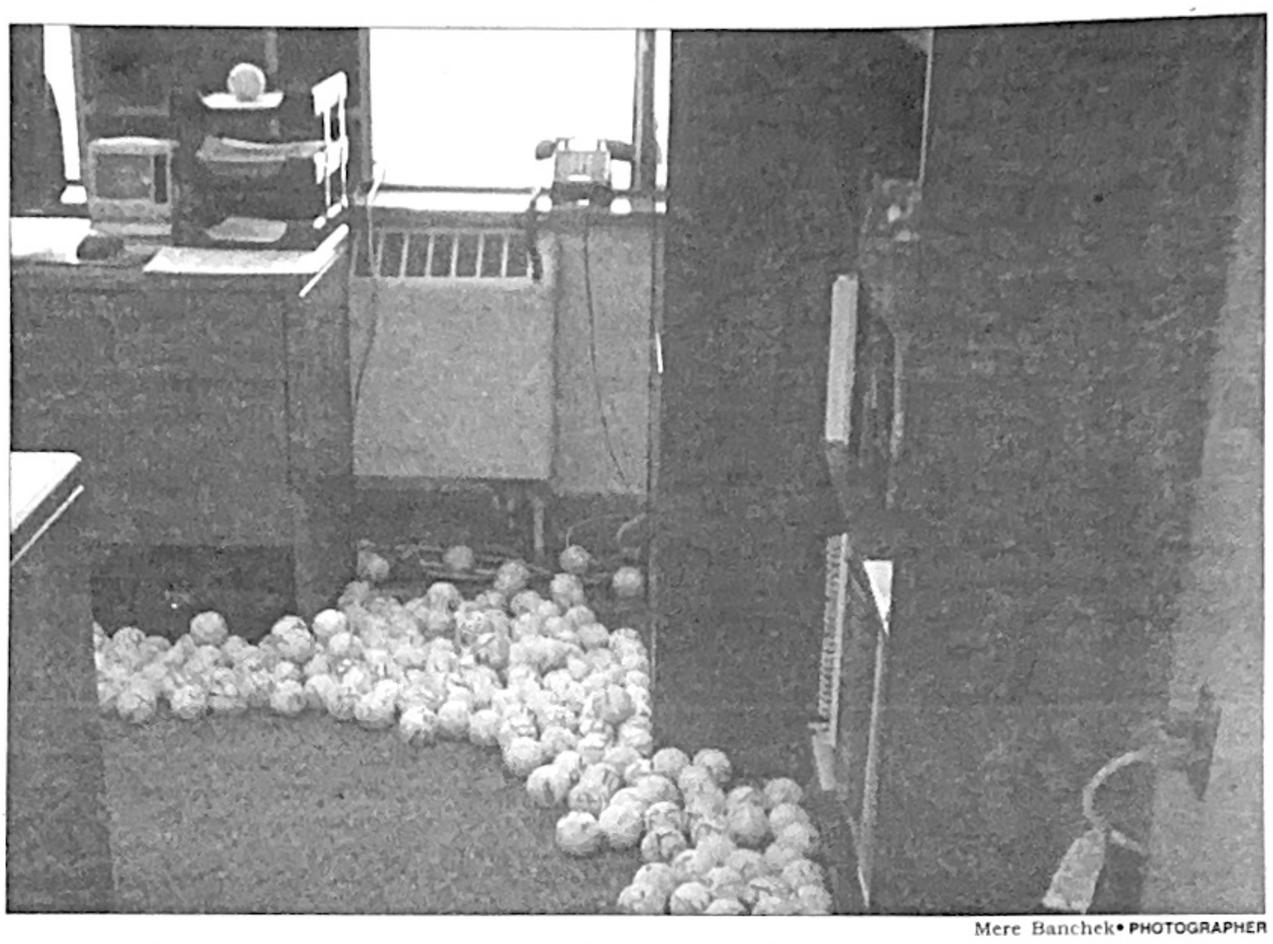
The administration tries to make sure events like the walk-through occur at the least disruptive times. Normally they advise that the walk-through occur before the 8 a.m. bell. This year the seniors didn't organize early enough to make that happen, but they still wanted to do it during the day. Because of AP testing Griffith pushed it to tenth period.

Though Eppich said he didn't participate much in the pranks, he does think it can be a cool idea to have them approved. He said that this year Griffith allowed a custodian to open the door to Assistant Principal Eric Hutchinson's office so seniors could place hundreds of tennis balls in it.

"Mr. Hutch got a kick out of it, and we have so much respect for him," Eppich said.

For this year students and faculty alike seemed to agree that senior prank week went well, and Griffith intends to keep it that way.

"We have no room to support destructive behavior," Griffith said.



Mere Banchek• PHOTOGRAPHER

SENIORS PUT HUNDREDS of tennis balls in Assistant Principal Eric Hutchinson's office during senior prank week. Staff helped open the office for the seniors to conduct this good-humored prank.

Project plans don't all pan out

•'05 hits the real world with varied success as senior project unfolds

By Bobby O'Connor
GRAPHICS EDITOR

"Oh, I didn't go on project," senor Mike McIntosh said.

McIntosh was one of several seniors whose senior project plans were profiled in the January edition of The Shakerite. He was planning to write a children's book in Japanese but ended up not going on project at all. Some underclassmen might say he is crazy.

"I personally would have gone on project, but that is their decision," said freshman Susanna Pretzer. "Maybe it wasn't worth it to them."

McIntosh had planned to work on the book, which would have been written in both Japanese and English, with Mike Hering and Zach Simon-Curry. The group, however, decided to pursue different projects instead.

McIntosh and Hering did not go on project, but Simon-Curry did. He is now working in the art room at the high school, organizing next year's senior art class.

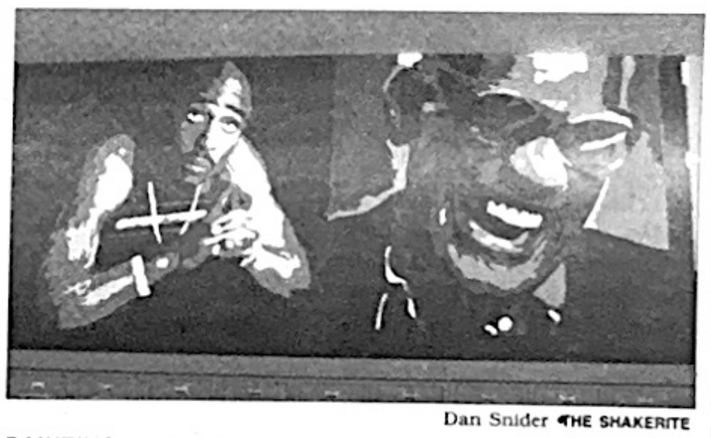
"I'm having a good time," Simon-Curry said, "you know, learning stuff."

"We decided that they would have enough work hours," said senior project adviser Walter Slovikovski, who is also a math teacher, "but they decided to pursue different projects."

Victor Nimmons had lined up a project in which he would learn about working with hazardous material at MetroHealth. Unfortunately his sponsor passed away, and he is now working at the Shaker Heights Family Center instead. He is doing counseling work, serving as a receptionist and doing odd jobs.

"It is not as interesting as the other project would have been, but I still don't have to take tests," Nimmons said.

Tupac and Ray arrive



Dan Snider •THE SHAKERITE

PAINTING MURALS HAS become a popular choice for senior project over the years. Isaiah Tunkara, Arvel Myles and James Quarles are painting music icons Ray Charles, Bob Marley and Tupac Shakur on the wall above lockers in the hallway adjacent to the guidance office.

FROM Bomb Scare PAGE 1

robberies in Greater Cleveland.

The SHPD received the call at around 2:40 p.m.; they then called Vic Ferrell, head of security at the high school. Administrators ordered the evacuation that lasted 25 minutes.

Both the police and fire departments arrived shortly. By dismissal time, school officials encouraged students go home if they did not need to reenter the school. Police eventually allowed students back into the building after they completed their search.

School personnel were informed of the hoax at an impromptu faculty meeting after the school received clearing, and Principal Michael Griffith explained the event to students during a PA announcement the next morning.

"It is good they got caught, great that no one was hurt, and that the evacuation went as smoothly as it did," said Peggy Caldwell, director of communications.

"I think it was ridiculous," said sophomore Lacardo Knott, "and whoever the lady was, was ignorant of the fact that everyone was going to evacuate and be more attentive to what was going on."

Student Council carnival offers fun look at high school activities

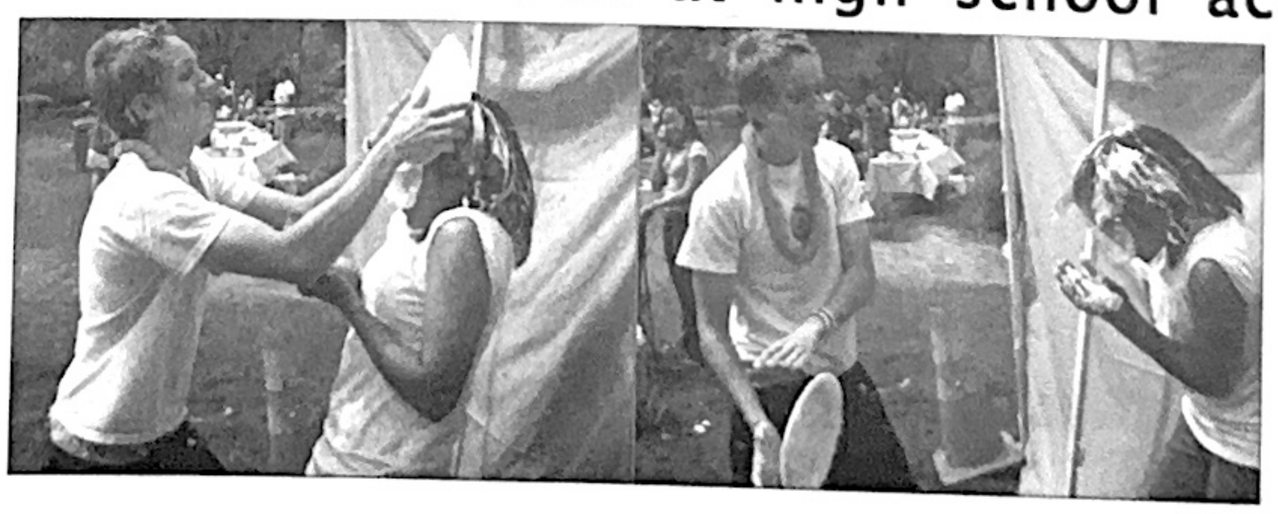
By Carry Reese
NEWS EDITOR

Shaker carnival, organized by Student Council, was held in the courtyard and on the front lawn of the high school Saturday, May 21. The Student Council carnival and clubs committee is headed by Anastasia Frank.

"Since the beginning of the year, we've been renting the different attractions and getting in touch with clubs," Frank said.

Activities appealed to a wide range of ages, and local restaurants supplied food.

"The Student Council will probably do it next year. We hope it will show off the high school and its activities in a positive light," Frank said.



SOPHOMORE TOM CHOKEL throws a pie in classmate Melissa Nezamzadeh's face during Student Council carnival May 21. Sophomore Jessica Craig looks on.

Dan Snider • PHOTO EDITOR

Celebrities promote new charity

Backed by celebrities including Bono, Brad Pitt, and No Doubt, One is a new charity designed to combat AIDS and extreme poverty in the world's poorest nations. The charity also aims at getting the U.S. government to devote one percent of its budget to helping these countries. One percent of our nation's budget is roughly $25 million. This money would

make an enormous impact on extreme poverty in third world nations. One percent is such a miniscule amount to the United States; it would barely be missed. If $87 billion can be squandered in misguided foreign crusades, surely $25 million can be directed at helping struggling nations achieve a humane standard of living.

Rite Artist
THIS IS THE SUMMER..
THE SUMMER I ACTUALLY GET A JOB.
A JOB THAT WILL GET ME RESPECT! DIGNITY! AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, MONEY!

Allison Vitkus •THE SHAKERITE

Attendance policy inexcusable

As spring arrives, a quick look inside many classrooms reveals attendance rates that would be expected after an outbreak of West Nile. Although Shaker claims to have an attendance policy, the reality of the policy's enforcement not only fails to discourage students from skipping, but also aggravates parents and students.

the Rite Idea

Roberta Donaldson, a secretary who works in the attendance office, said the automated phone system calls students' homes based on what teachers enter into their online attendance records. The secretaries in the attendance office check their voice messages three times a day and manually erase from the list any student whose parents excused their students' absences. Donaldson admitted, however, that sometimes glitches in the phone system cause messages to be lost until several days later.

While the system would work well in theory, its frequent errors cause both teachers and parents to disregard it. Students receive cut calls when they've been excused in advance or when they're on field trips, so parents often ignore the calls altogether. For those parents who do pay attention, these inaccuracies make it all too easy for students to explain away cut-calls when they actually do cut class. Also, the system's automated nature makes it simple to excuse an absence if your parent refuses – just intercept the cut call and have a friend excuse it.

Because the attendance system is notoriously unreliable, some teachers take attendance reform into their own hands. This rise in skipping may be frustrating for teachers, but those who leave their classes to track down students are out of line. While they have the right to be upset, teachers who disappear to search for absent students are disrupting their classes. Other teachers enter attendance on the computer each day but never bother to determine whether an absence was excused or not because the school allows parents to excuse absences weeks and months later.

The school could lower teachers' blood pressure and keep parents accurately informed if it restructured its attendance system. If cut calls only came when the student actually cut, parents would be more inclined to cooperate with the current system. Reform would also save students from worrying that a field trip will result in cut calls. The system needs revision if it is to achieve the goal of maximum student attendance.

The school could save teachers' blood pressure and keep parents accurately informed if it restructured its attendance system.

Got TV news? You don't have much

"In war, truth is the first casualty." Although this quote may be outdated, the words of Greek playwright Aeschylus still ring true.

With U.S. forces in Iraq for a little more than two years now, you might expect the truth would be known, but it isn't. From the beginning this was a war of misconception, and the facts were cloudier than the Cleveland skies.

> "In war, truth is the first casualty."
>
> Aeschylus
> Greek playwright

WESLEY LOWERY
OPINION EDITOR

While not all Americans hold these misconception, many do. According to a study by the California-based Knowledge Networks, a consumer information company, an astounding 80 percent of Americans rely on TV for their news.

I have never been more ashamed to be an American. We so quickly abandon reading, the skill we struggle to master at the ripe young age of 6, and flee to the wicked corruptor: the TV.

How is it that teenagers throughout the country can handle college level courses, yet most can't even manage to read a newspaper everyday? The same poll found that a mere 19 percent of Americans get their news from print media, and only 10 read a newspaper on a daily basis. Ten percent! If the study is to be trusted, of the 1,800 students who receive this paper, only 180 of you will read it.

Of Americans who watch TV newscasts, 48 percent do not know the difference between the war on terrorism and our war in Iraq. Another 22 percent believe that U.S. troops have already found weapons of mass destruction.

While I'm not saying newspapers are perfect, they are undeniably more reliable than news anchors who are forced to sacrifice information not only in order to fit a time frame, but also to attract the most viewers with scandalous, barely newsworthy stories. And while you may not think you are being deceived, you are wrong. The study found that people claiming to follow TV news "very closely" held more misconceptions than readers of newspapers who only follow "somewhat closely."

Because they are not slaves to the immediacy of 24-hour news TV coverage, newspapers spend more time filtering between fact and fiction. In addition newspapers tend to use sources that are more reliable and less biased. News writers are critical of their topics, while TV personalities rarely if ever hold their "sources" accountable.

While TV brings us many great things, its distorted form of news casting only causes trouble for viewers; TV "news readers" not only neglect their journalistic responsibilities, but every night at 6, they poison the minds of Americans with disinformation.

Ad nauseum

Ahh, the movies. Popcorn. Candy. Comfy seats. Previews. Commercials?

On my last trip to Shaker Square Cinemas, I waited in line, bought my ticket and got a soda. Upon sitting down, I began to eavesdrop on the people in front of me.

They were struggling to come up with the answer to one of the Screen Scramblers out loud, and I couldn't resist the urge. The answer was so obvious, but they had no clue. I reached over and nudged my mom, saying just loudly enough for them to hear, "Duh! 'Freaky Friday.' "

LENA NEWMAN
OPINION EDITOR

Satisfied that they had heard me, I leaned back in my seat and prepared for the previews. But, as the lights dimmed and the surround sound exploded to life, I received an unpleasant surprise.

A singing Beyonce accompanied an ad for Tommy Hilfiger perfume. A metal beast transformed into a Scion. Borders had an assortment of gifts, great for anyone on your list. And Panasonic TV's were stealing attention from runway models.

I tried to deny it, but to no avail. I knew this wasn't some strange hodge-podge of a movie. My worst fears were confirmed as I looked around and realized that I was not in my living room, in front of the TV.

I had just watched commercials at the movie theater.

TV commercials are seldom entertaining and usually annoying. They allow you to channel surf or go to the bathroom. At the theater before the previews start, advertisements are interspersed with fun facts and entertainment trivia. These 'silent commercials', like TV commercials, do not force you to watch. You can grab a snack and return to your seat safely.

But commercials during the previews are devilishly designed to trap the viewer. It is not possible to avoid these commercials by journeying to the bathroom or snack bar. Doing so would annoy fellow movie-goers considerably.

Instead, you are forced to sit, ensnared by genius marketing executives who have finally discovered the true meaning of a captive audience.

Some states, including Illinois, are even proposing legislation that would require movies to list two start times, one when the previews begin and one when the movie starts.

These commercials prove particularly annoying because they defeat the point of going to the movies. Seeing a movie is an excursion, something out of the ordinary. Movies have all of the positives of watching TV without any of the negatives, including commercials.

Since I was small, going to see a movie was a special experience, something to look forward too. When the Wizard of Oz was digitally remastered and re-released, my mom drove me through a blizzard to Tower City to see it. We were the only two people in the theater.

Pre-film commercials remind us not to take movies for granted. Sure, you can rent one or watch one on TV, but the experience just isn't the same. Enduring commercials before a film compromises the magic of the cinema and brings the movies one step closer to TV.

Cheers and Jeers

CHEERS to seniors for few disruptions of class during prank week.

JEERS to '05 for not being creative enough to disrupt class.

CHEERS to the end of school, I'm practically deaf from the high-pitched PA announcers screaming at 9.50 daily.

JEERS to the start of finals. Why should I have to remember everything I learned in the past four months?

CHEERS to the woman who called in the fake bomb threat - you got us out of class for a good 20 minutes!

JEERS to George Lucas for implying that "Star Wars Episode 3" has an underlying political message. Everything does NOT have to be related to politics!

Are senior pranks STUNTS or CRIMES?

• The Shakerite looks at area schools' policies on seniors pranks. Where do students and administrators draw the line?

Kelsey Cohen-Roth • THE SHAKERITE

(ABOVE) SENIOR ROBBY Woodcock plays the quads during a senior march through the school and courtyard May 5, during senior prank week. (Left) Seniors covered this car with plastic wrap and silly string as part of senior prank week.

Seniors pull 'fun' and 'safe' pranks

By Lauren Weiss
CENTERPIECE EDITOR

In honor of senior week, senior Anne Ouellette stuck flexible erasers to the backs of some students' locks, affixing them to their lockers. She didn't want to do anything that was destructive; just something lighthearted.

"Senior prank week was fun this year," Ouellette said. "I really liked the marching band."

Some pranks, however, were not as mild as students playing the fight song in the hallways. Live mice were released in the stairwells during passing periods and birds were set loose in the cafeteria, actions that Head of Security Vic Ferrell deems as "borderline" between pranks and crimes.

"It's cruel to the animals," he said. "Sometimes kids play too much."

Ferrell added that this year's senior festivities were among the mildest, noting that he did not receive any parent complaints this year.

"The kids had fun and did it in a safe way," he said.

Administrators took several measures to curtail the severity of senior pranks after last year's episode of senior week, which included underclassmen shattering a school window by hitting it with water balloons that contained one or two golf balls. Also, an explosion caused by a firework disrupted school 10th period. This year, security cameras were installed on the first floor, and the administration emphasized that the week before senior project begins is "senior week," not "senior prank week" and is a time for seniors to take pride in their accomplishments.

Still, some of the stunts pulled this year were prosecutable crimes. Ferrell said he has never called the police because of a prank, and the school security staff is in charge of determining whether additional police presence is necessary. However, Police Chief Walter Ugrinic said he has received calls from parents and students in past years, although none this year.

"Some feel that we should be stricter, some feel that [senior prank week] is part of growing up," he said. "Anything that is damaging isn't funny. Painting the sides of buildings isn't funny. Letting mice loose isn't funny."

> "Sometimes kids play too much."
>
> Vic Ferrell
> head of security

Ugrinic said he has never prosecuted a student for a senior prank in the 30 years he has worked at the Shaker Police Department. If someone did decide to press charges, pranks such as vandalizing a car would be considered a misdemeanor and warrant a fine and/or a diversion program.

"Every case is weighed on its own merits," Ugrinic said, adding as an example that letting mice loose is a misdemeanor if no one is hurt, but an injury causes the charges to escalate.

At Vero Beach High School in Florida, a senior prank included criminal behavior, but they evidently will not be prosecuted. Four seniors broke into the high school and freed a bull that was housed on campus as part of the school's agricultural program around 1 a.m. The bull was found by a teacher around 6 a.m. and later brought back to his pen unharmed. The students, whose actions were caught on a security tape, were suspended and given a list of jobs to complete, if they do so, they can participate in commencement.

Shaker junior Maddie Weinland qualifies pranks as legal stunts that both the prankster and the prankee think are funny, while crimes are amusing only to the prankster. She thinks this year's senior week was mild, although she noticed more targeting of specific classes.

Weinland said her car was silly-stringed and someone wrote "'05" on the hood in mustard. The mustard etched into her hood and she will need to touch up the paint.

"I'm not that angry. It wasn't done intentionally to damage cars; pressing charges isn't necessary," said Weinland, who said she will probably do some pranks next year.

Ferrell said this year's senior week headed in the right direction in terms of safety.

"Kids didn't get vindictive," he said. "Security does a good job with keeping it in check."

Ouellette said school officials and the police should let students pull the pranks unless the situation becomes dangerous.

"They shouldn't get involved unless it gets really, really out of hand," she said.

SHAKER HEIGHTS

This year's "senior week" included some classic pranks as well as some novel ones. The week found seniors writing and drawing on cars and leaving too much space between vehicles on the Oval. Here's a collection of pranks:

Monday: Spray paint on trees and sidewalk.

Tuesday: Firecracker detonated on second floor; mice released in stairways.

Wednesday: Birds released in cafeteria.

Thursday: Seniors marched around the second floor and in the courtyard tenth period, cheering and playing the fight song; signs posted disparaging class of '06; 2,005 tennis balls put in Assistant Principal Eric Hutchinson's office; stuffed animals stuffed in Principal Michael Griffith's office.

Friday: Lawn Day; "05" spray-painted on courtyard grass.

Note: Head of Security Vic Ferrell could not confirm that these stunts were pulled by seniors.

Compiled by Lauren Weiss

CLEVELAND HTS.

Administration

Deborah Elsie, Cleveland Heights superintendent, stated that there isn't a designated week for pranks. Pranksters are suspended immediately.

Students

"Seniors lack school spirit and therefore don't do any pranks," said sophomore Rachel Petrey.

Best Prank

There have been no pranks that were out of the ordinary.

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL

Administration

Dr. Richard Hawley, headmaster of University School, said there is no senior week, just a senior cut day in early April. In addition, the last two days before project are dress down days.

Students

"As long as you don't do something stupid and damage any property, pranks are fun to witness and do," said US junior Paul Moses. He thinks pranks are good when they involve the whole school and not just the seniors.

Best Prank

Seniors put more than a thousand balloons covered in liquid nitrogen in the teachers' lounge (liquid nitrogen caused the balloons to shatter when popped).

BEACHWOOD

Administration

According to Richard Markwardt, superintendent of Beachwood, senior week is not an activity at Beachwood. Anyone who does pranks on school property will immediately be punished (punishment is determined according to the severity of the prank).

Students

Beachwood sophomore Michael Garson said senior week is about the seniors leaving a legacy and showing the underclassmen how awesome the graduating class actually is.

Best Prank

The Class of 2003 set loose about 50 chickens all over the school.

ORANGE

Administration

According to Dr. Daniel Lukich, superintendent of Orange, pranks are not allowed on campus. If someone were to be caught, he would be suspended and lose senior project privileges.

Students

Orange sophomore Emma Taylor thinks senior pranks at Orange are really low key. "Seniors don't do a lot because they are scared of getting in trouble," she said.

Best prank

Seniors once took apart the principal's car and reassembled it on the roof of the school.

Graphic by Allie Jennings. Information compiled by Sarah Brandon.

Summer Days

Finding some fun in the summer sun

No summer plans yet? No job? Not really a camp person?

Don't worry.

The Shakerite has ideas that will spruce up your lazy summer days. Daytime TV *is* pretty thrilling, but if you get the urge to do something after watching the "Price is Right" for six days in a row, we have some suggestions for you. It may not seem like Shaker or even Cleveland would be an eventful place to spend the summer, but if you dig hard enough, there's plenty of fun waiting down the street.

From open swim at Thornton to live music at the Odeon, there is more than enough action to keep your summer busy. We know you're broke, so we found some activities that are fabulous *and* free. So don't forget to put down the remote or your summer reading book (hee, hee) and do something fun on our list.

Compiled by Miriam Moore

Shaker Recreation Dept. Activities

- Horseback riding
Lessons available at Maypine Equestrian Center on Wednesdays, Saturdays or Sundays between July 6 and Aug. 28. Cost: Eight lessons for $200

- Table tennis
Receive coaching from Olympic coach Valeriy Elnatano at the Shaker Community Building on Mondays and Wednesdays or Sundays. Drop-in cost: $5

- Tap dance
Learn basic techniques on Wednesday nights at the high school from June 15 to July 20. Cost: $38

- Competitive fast-pitch softball
Contact high school softball coach Sue Triozzi if interested in playing in the summer league. Fee required.

- Thornton swimming pool
Swim at your leisure between May 28 and Sept. 9. Cost: Season pass for $105 and partial pass (15 swims) for $55

June

8-11 **CMJ Music Fest featuring The Misfits, Lucero and Stephen Malkmus.** One hundred rock bands will perform at several local music venues including the Flats, Odeon and the Grog Shop. Opening night is at 7:30 p.m. June 8 at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame featuring the Pixies. Tickets available for $10 a day.

10 **"Mr. and Mrs. Smith" opens.** Starring Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie.

11 **Parade the Circle.** Located at the Cleveland Museum of Art from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

11-12 **Legacy Village Art Festival.** Art show free to the public from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

15 **Dave Mathews Band.** Performing at Blossom Music Center. Tickets $40-$58.

15 **"Batman Begins" opens.** This remake features Christian Bale, Liam Neeson, Morgan Freeman and Katie Holmes.

17 **Avon Duct Tape Festival.** Veteran's Memorial Park from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Free admission.

17-19 **Craft Fair.** Located at Hathaway Brown School

19 **Brian McKnight.** Performing at the Tower City Amphitheater. Tickets $27.75-$59.75

19 **Annual Shaker Summer Solstice Festival of Music.** Enjoy music and food at the Community Colonade located at Lee Road and Van Aken Boulevard.

22 **Black Eyed Peas.** Performing at the Tower City Amphitheater. Tickets $27.50-$30.

July

1 **"War of the Worlds" opens.** This remake features Tom Cruise and Dakota Fanning.

2-3 **Summerfest.** Food, music, arts and crafts (and fireworks July 3) at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds. Admission $5.

4 **Independence Day.** Fireworks at Shaker Middle School at dusk.

8 **Six Feet Under.** Performing at the Odeon at 8 p.m. Tickets $18.

11 **"Fantastic Four" opens.** This remake features Jessica Alba.

15 **"Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" opens.** This remake stars Johnny Depp.

22 **"The Island" opens.** Featuring Ewan McGregor, Scarlett Johansson and Steve Buscemi.

August

2 **American Idols Live.** Performing at the Wolstein Center at Cleveland State University. Tickets available for $36-$46.

5 **"The Pink Panther" opens.** This remake features Steve Martin, Kevin Kline and Beyonce Knowles.

8-14 **Cuyahoga County Fair.** Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea.

12 **Feast of the Assumption.** Enjoy Italian food, music and games at this week-long street festival in Little Italy.

17 **O.A.R.** Performing at the Odeon at 7 p.m. Tickets available for $25-$27.50.

Don't forget to . . .

- wear sunblock (burns are not fashionable)
- do your summer reading
- have fun
- come to school (wince) Aug. 23

CROCKER PARK SWEEPS SHOPPING SCENE

•Shopping center brings unique stores to Cleveland

By Amanda Orr
PULSE EDITOR

When President George W. Bush was scheduled to speak at the Westlake Recreation Center at the same time as Crocker Park's grand opening, you would expect the new mall in the overwhelmingly Republican community to be empty. The turnout in the hundreds, however, is proof this trendy mall is more attractive and diverse than any other shopping center - at least in Cleveland.

The outdoor mall that opened Oct. 28, 2004 not only has a variety of mainstream stores including American Eagle and Express, but also includes a selection of stores that are not easily available to Shaker teens.

According to store managers, Urban Outfitters, Indigo Nation, Hollister and H&M bring customers from all over Ohio.

Sophomore Emily Krassen enjoys shopping at Crocker Park with friends.

"I like it. I think it's good for Cleveland," said Krassen, who has visited the mall three times since its opening. "[I like Hollister the best because] it has good basic clothes that are not very expensive."

Crocker Park is often compared to Legacy Village in Beachwood. Crocker Park cost $480 million to build and encompasses 1.7 million square feet of office, condo, retail and restaurant spaces, and although Legacy has 68 stores (compared to Crocker's 54 stores), Crocker Park is laid out on a larger plot of land.

Courtney, the manager of Urban Outfitters in Westlake, who said company policy forbid her to give her last name, remarked that Legacy Village has not been as successful because of its limited appeal.

"Crocker Park is more successful because it has more variety," Courtney said.

Those who live on the east side wonder whether the half-hour drive is worth it when Legacy Village is comparable and just around the corner, but Krassen thinks the better shopping experience at Crocker is worth the long haul.

"[Crocker Park] has more clothing stores than Legacy," Krassen said. "It's better than Legacy because the stores are more affordable. There are only three good stores in Legacy, and they have cute stuff, but they are expensive."

Crocker Park Stores

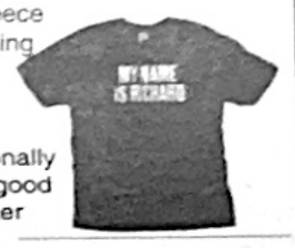
•Abercrombie & Fitch
•Abercrombie Kids
•Acorn
•American Eagle
•Ann Taylor
•Arhaus
•Aveda by Headquarters Salon & Spa
•Banana Republic
•Barnes & Noble
•Bed, Bath & Beyond
•Best Cuts
•Blockbuster Video
•Bombay & Bombay for Kids
•Borders Books & Music
•Carlson Wagonlit Travel
•Charles Scott Hair, Skin & Nails
•Coach
•Coldwater Creek
•Dick's Sporting Goods
•Eddie Bauer
•Europtical
•Express
•Express Men
•GAP
•GAP Kids
•General Nutrition Center (GNC)
•Giant Eagle
•Giovanni Carrelli Clothiers
•H&M
•Hollister
•Indigo Nation
•J Crew
•Limited Too
•Marcell's
•N.J. Thomas Jewelers
•Office Max
•Ohio Automobile Association / AAA
•Pac Sun
•Plymouth Candle
•Regal Cinema
•RR Freestyle for Men
•Sprint
•Sunglass Hut
•Sur La Table
•Talbots Kids
•Talbots Petites
•Talbots Woman
•Trader Joe's
•Urban Outfitters
•US Bank
•Verizon Wireless
•White House
•Black Market
•Z Gallerie

Urban Outfitters

Urban Outfitters is a popular West Coast store with seven locations in California alone. Until now, one had to drive to Cincinnati or visit their website, www.urbanoutfitters.com, to get the latest styles from this trendy store. A multi level store, Urban Outfitters sells both men's and women's apparel and accessories. The store also sells a variety of dorm room and apartment furnishings. Some of the fun items include shower curtains covered with smiling teeth and a gangsta rap coloring book.

Hollister

Hollister is a preppy store that has many options for both boys' and girls' clothing. They carry an especially wide variety of gross message T-shirts for guys ("Let's get friendly" is the least offensive shirt; the others are not appropriate for a family newspaper). The price is fair; T-shirts cost about $16. Hollister is a favorite for girls. From fleece to flip flops, clothing at Hollister is good-looking, inexpensive and although ocassionally inappropriate, a good choice for Crocker Park shoppers.



Regal Cinemas

"It's convenient to have shopping malls and movie theaters together, but I only go to both once every four months."

Evan Fallon
senior

Kona Grill

Kona Grill is a restaurant that serves American fusion cuisine. It offers salads, sandwiches, steaks, pork, chicken and sushi. The menu is very diverse, and not too focused on one particular kind of cuisine. There are foods from onion soup to pad thai noodles to meat loaf. The menu looks similar to that of Bahama Breeze, but it has more Asian style foods. Overall, there are so many options that even picky eaters can find something on the menu, and the price is not outrageous.

Anthropologie

Anthropologie is a cute, quirky and girly store that sells apparel, accessories and home decor. While at first it appears to be a store for an older generation, it also carries clothes that appeal to teens. They feature a wide variety of vintage and bohemian clothes that are fresh and original. Because there are also many out-of-the-ordinary items such as pearl dog collars and flower-shaped door knobs, Anthropologie is a great place to buy gifts for friends. Unfortunately, it is quite pricey- a tank top can cost $58-$98. It is still a store to check out, though, because of the selection of unique items is worth the price. This store coming soon to Crocker Park.

Cara's Boutique

"I think non-mainstream stores are better because you'll be the only one with a certain style."

Kali Malitir
sophomore

Express Men

Express Men sells metrosexual style clothing for casual and formal occasions. The clothes are good looking and chic, but at almost $40 a shirt, looking great will cost you. Walking over to a cheaper store, like Hollister, would be the best option to keep your wallet happy.

Fast Facts

- Express has a design studio on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan
- Design related questions can be answered by a fashion expert on their website.

Blake's Seafood

Blake's Seafood Restaurant and Bar offers a sophisticated casual setting and, according to its website, has "New England cuisine with an Asian-inspired flair." The restaurant has an extensive selection of seafood, but also offers a few chicken and steak dishes. There are many varieties of fish, and Blake's Seafood is known for its wood-grilled cooking technique. It is not too expensive and a good place for dinner because of its variety.

Heard in the Halls

Overheard and out of context

"Don't touch my rattail!"
5/12

"My horse is narcoleptic."
5/23

"What does that have to do with Asia?"
"It's a friggin' dragon, you idiot!"
5/12

"Man, nigga, my phone is out of commission"
5/19

"Can I have your mom to go?"
5/14

"Is that your housekeeper?"
"No man, that's my mom!"
5/23

"Monet is a G."
5/23

"Rastafarianism is just Jewish people with dreadlocks."
5/18

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Dobama to showcase Shaker playwrights

Three Shaker playwrights will help Dobama Theater celebrate its last performances in its Coventry Road home June 11-13. The weekend will feature the works of high school playwrights that were selected for the 26th Annual Arilyn Bianchi Kids Playwriting Festival.

Included in these are sophomore Shirley Bell's "A Chance to Be Somebody," junior Matt Herzfeld's "And they Danced Until Dawn" and senior Erin Chelune's "Falling," all of which were originally written for a New Stages performance. Learn more at www.dobama.org.

Why 'Sex and the City' is saving us

Cheating on your spouse is no good. We all know that. But "Sex and the City" and "Desperate Housewives" are the only shows that keep me sane in the God's-on-our-side-U.S.A.

JOSH DAVIDSON
ARTS EDITOR

Increasingly, right-wing Christian organizations are becoming powerful in the United States. Evangelicals can be seen on five different Christian channels on TV. They are the reason our insane president was re-elected. They are the reason homosexuals cannot get married. They fight against freedom of speech and safe sex.

Those people are the reason I love "Sex in the City" and "Desperate Housewives." These shows spite the religious right wing, the force guiding our lovely country today. As evangelicals preach their passion of ending freedom of speech, these TV shows enjoy the freedom of speech that bothers them most. Adultery, condoms, birth control pills and premarital sex partners are frequent topics, inflaming right-wingers.

And I love it.

I love hearing them talk about the filth being imposed upon the children *of America and how our country is going to hell because of pop culture. Ironically not once have they protested Fox's line-up of "entertainment," including a show called* "Trading Spouses," in which the sanctity of marriage is sacrificed for Nielsen ratings, and "Stacked," a one-joke sit-com that puts Pamela Anderson in a bookstore. Apparently FOX gets a free pass because it is the official Republican News Network.

The one show that is the true defender of the freedoms our country supposedly advocates is "Queer as Folk." This show depicts naked gay men, and oh, the horror, lesbians with children. Radical Republicans, especially the religious ones, are appalled by these ideas.

Those extremists think it's the sin of the century to like the same sex. I ask myself every day, as a heterosexual male, why they care so much. It's not like they're forcing the right wing to participate in gay sex.

Abolishing these shows – which is not such a far-fetched idea given the attitude of the Federal Communications Commission these days – would lead our country down a path toward becoming a religious state. Don't think the FCC is in cohorts with the conservative right's effort to suppress speech? They want to regulate cable next. At this rate, America will deny all civil rights to homosexuals, and condoms would be difficult to get. Our president will not do anything to stop the FCC; he is one of its greatest supporters.

Bush is a born-again Christian who has waved a Bible while addressing the public! That – not lesbians with children – is the greatest threat to America's social and political stability.

The fact that the leaders of our nation, which prides itself on separation of church and state, waves a Bible around in a public appearance, should send a shiver down the spine of all the citizens of the USA. This desperately needs to be stopped.

And what is a better way to stop it than on television?

A uniquely staged final

·Shakescenes students take various routes through acting, writing and performing to pass year-long course by 'The Skin of Our Teeth'

By Josh Davidson
ARTS EDITOR

Noah's Ark, Atlantic City and dinosaurs. Three things that could only go together in Shakescenes.

Shakescenes, a class offered through the theater department, is not very well known. It is defined in the Program Planning Guide as an ensemble that centers on classical theater, especially Shakespeare.

Kelly Myers, the director of Shakescenes, also teaches English and Theater 3 Improv. She explains that Shakescenes is an "advanced theater course, a study of classical theater."

> "Many [students] come out of this and start improv groups."
> Kelly Myers
> Shakescenes Director

According to Myers one major playwright is studied and at the end of the semester the class performs a play by that writer. Though they have performed many Shakespeare plays, the class is not always a Shakespeare experience.

Throughout the year the Shakescenes students study classical literature, write formal research papers and written criticisms and put on a final production.

This year's final production was Thornton Wilder's play, "The Skin of Our Teeth." The play tells the story of Mr. and Mrs. Antrobus and their family.

The family deals with numerous major moments in biblical and modern times, such as the Cain and Abel story, Noah and the flood, the ice age, and the Great Depression. In the play, Mr. Antrobus is credited with the creation of the wheel and with brewing beer.

Sarah Ratner, who played Mrs. Antrobus, chose to do Shakescenes because it provided a "different way to get into theater." Ratner says Shakescenes is "more of a workshops class," and does not give as much pressure on students as other theater departments. "It's a great enviroment and a small class."

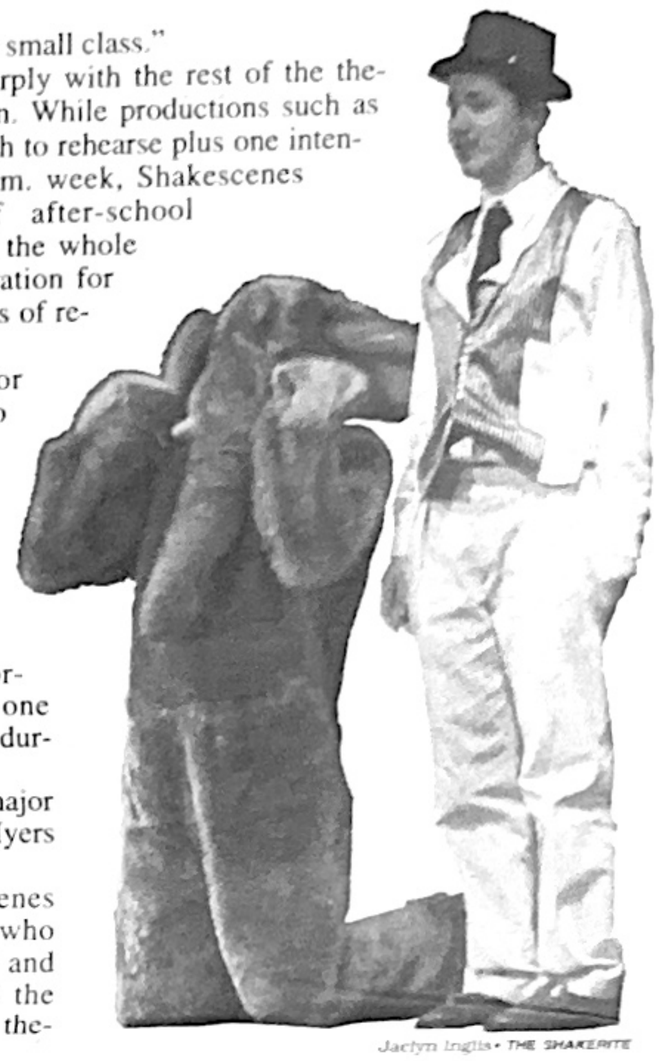
Shakescenes contrasts sharply with the rest of the theater department in preparation. While productions such as "Pippin" have close to a month to rehearse plus one intensive stay-at-school-till-10 p.m. week, Shakescenes only gets two weeks of after-school preperation. Myers says that the whole semester is preparation for the final two weeks of rehearsal.

Shaker's major productions also receive wide publicity and are staged for three nights, while Shakescenes posters were nowhere to be seen and their performance was on one Sunday afternoon during Shakerfest.

"This is not a major production; this is a final," Myers said.

In recent years, Shakescenes has performed "The Man who Came to Dinner," "Hamlet" and "The Crucible." Myers said the class started some students' theater careers.

"Many of them come out of this and start improv groups," Myers said. For example Carter Bays ('93), one of the Shakescenes graduates, is a writer for the Tonight Show.


Jaclyn Inglis • THE SHAKERITE

JUNIORS KEVIN SUTORIUS and Marie Hoffman perform in Shakescenes May 15. "The Skin of Our Teeth" was the 17 production in Shakescenes history since it began in 1988.

At Art Fair, talent and controversy evident

Dan Snider • THE SHAKERITE

THESE CHALK DRAWINGS attracted lots of attention at the April 29 Art Fair. Dan Whitely's painting class drew them.

By Allen Eckhouse
STAFF REPORTER

five MINUTE critic

While the annual Art Fair is usually a daylong event that showcases the talent of art students (or an invitation to skip class), this year's fair was all about food, fun and cultural inaccuracies.

Visitors to this year's incarnation felt that some of the booths and displays were culturally insensitive to those of Hispanic descent. The booth displaying posters of Cuban revolutionary Che Guevara coupled with candy sales was specifically cited as being both misleading and inconsiderate.

Bernadette Thoennes, Spanish teacher and faculty adviser of the AFS Club and a native of Peru, thought that the fair was not representative of the Hispanic culture as a whole. "[It] focused too much on Mexico, because that's what people know about." Thoennes, however, wasn't offended by any other aspects of the day.

Sophomore Milan Aviles also felt there were flaws with the Art Fair's representation of Hispanic culture.

"There was too much emphasis on the margarita and other drink stands," said Aviles, "and the selling of fish was weird." Aviles noted the jazz combo and the giant mural in the art room as a highlight of the day.

Despite the controversy over cultural representations, the high quality artwork and creativity of the students who participated was evident.

They reached, they sang, they conquered

By Liz Kantor
ARTS EDITOR

I walked into the Large Auditorium April 30 hoping the ensemble show wouldn't be a waste of $5 and a Saturday night.

five MINUTE critic

Two times a year, the Senior, Advanced and Junior Ensembles showcase their progress in movement pieces.

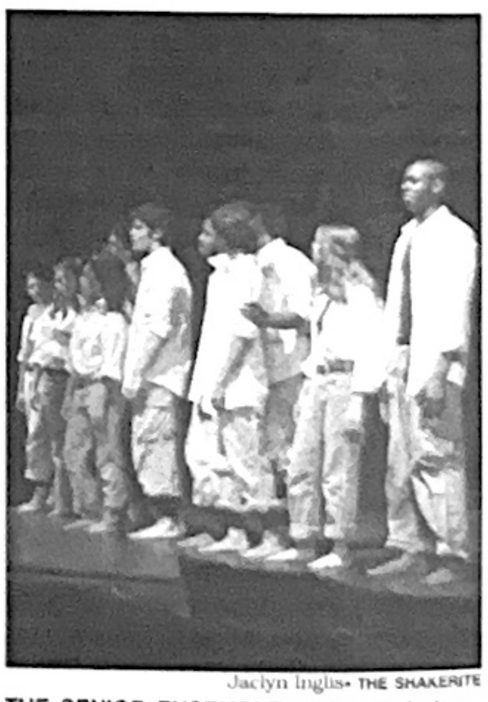
The lights went down, the music began, Hannah Corrigan and Annie Sivertson took the stage along with Alex Goggins ('04).

The first real piece was Junior Ensemble's. From the beginning, I was enthralled. Although I barely understood what all the movement signified, I loved the abstract nature of the performance. Minus props and sets, the Ensemble members reached into space, seemingly grasping at different goals each was envisioning.

The Senior Ensemble performed seven unique routines. They did a wide array of performances, ranging from movement to singing. Despite the fact that they are the most advanced group, the Senior Ensemble's complete domination of the show seemed out of proportion; especially because the other groups also meet every day. The best part of the whole show was the finale; it combined all three groups in a grand arrangement of 49 singing students.

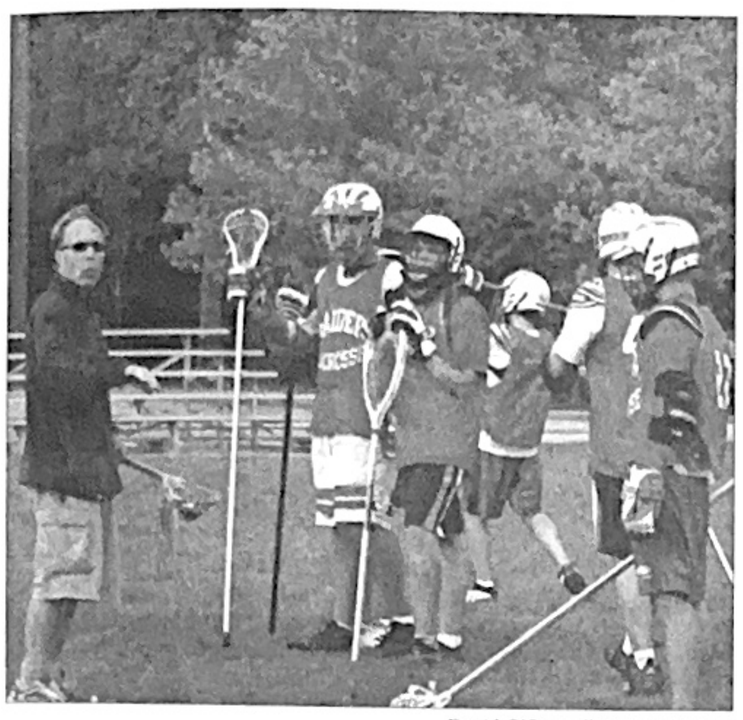
> Hoping the ensemble show wouldn't be a waste of $5 and a Saturday night.

★ ★ ★ ★ of 4


Jaclyn Inglis • THE SHAKERITE

THE SENIOR ENSEMBLE performs during "Hands of Light," the April ensemble show.

Gallagher leaves lax, heads west



David O'Connell •THE SHAKERITE

HEAD LACROSSE COACH Craig Gallagher advises defensive players. Gallagher is in his last year at Shaker after 10 years as head coach.

By Mike Young
SPORTS EDITOR

In his 10 years as men's varsity lacrosse coach, Craig Gallagher has witnessed an on-the-field revolution.

"He helped the program develop and stuck with it. That's why he'll be missed by many administrators," senior defender Brendan McDonald said of his coach, who will leave Shaker after this season.

Gallagher

Lacrosse has changed during Gallagher's tenure at Shaker. The game itself has become faster and players have reached a higher skill level. Participation has also increased with the improvement of available equipment and competition in the area.

"It's a major move, cross-country to Seattle," said Gallagher, who has been at Shaker for 12 years, two as an assistant under Ken Kirtz.

His playing days were spent at Thomas Worthington High School in Columbus from 1976 to 1979. During his four-year stint for the Columbus Lacrosse Club, he began coaching at Thomas Worthington Middle School in 1983. His brother, Chris, was head coach at Worthington High School.

"He was probably the biggest influence on my coaching career," Gallagher said.

Gallagher came to Shaker in 1993 and became head coach in 1995. "He basically jump-started the lacrosse program when he came here 12 years ago," sophomore midfielder John Gregg said.

But even without Gallagher, the program will be on solid ground. "It's sad that Coach Gallagher is leaving, but at least we already have two coaches that are with us and that will take over," Gregg said. Bill Fallon and Steve Byrnes were brought on this year as assistants.

Gallagher won the state tournament in 1996, and this year's team has the same potential with an 11-3 record after beating St. Francis Toledo in the first round of the playoffs 14-3.

At press time, the team was scheduled to play Cleveland Heights, May 25, in the second round of postseason play.

"Not only is it my final season, but this team has a chance at repeating the feats of the '96 team," Gallagher said.

"It's a climax for both the team and I. These kids played together for six years, winning the middle school tournament, and now it's the end of their careers [at Shaker] as well as mine."

A replacement for Gallagher has yet to be named, but both Bryne and Fallon will return for the 2006 season.

Shaker says goodbye to stellar senior class

FROM SENIORS PAGE 1

"This year's junior class I feel is their athletic equal, if not better," said Elliott, captain of the track team.

Senior field hockey co-captain Clare Malone reiterated that view, stating that the class of 2005 has played great seasons and that the class features many excellent individual athletes. However, she thinks the programs will thrive in their absence.

"*Shaker athletics will continue to* be strong because of the many talented athletes in other grades," Malone said. She added that the class of '05 hasn't won as many championships as the athletes in the late '90s and believes the graduating seniors could have achieved more.

College programs suffer the same rebuilding issues at the end of their own seasons.

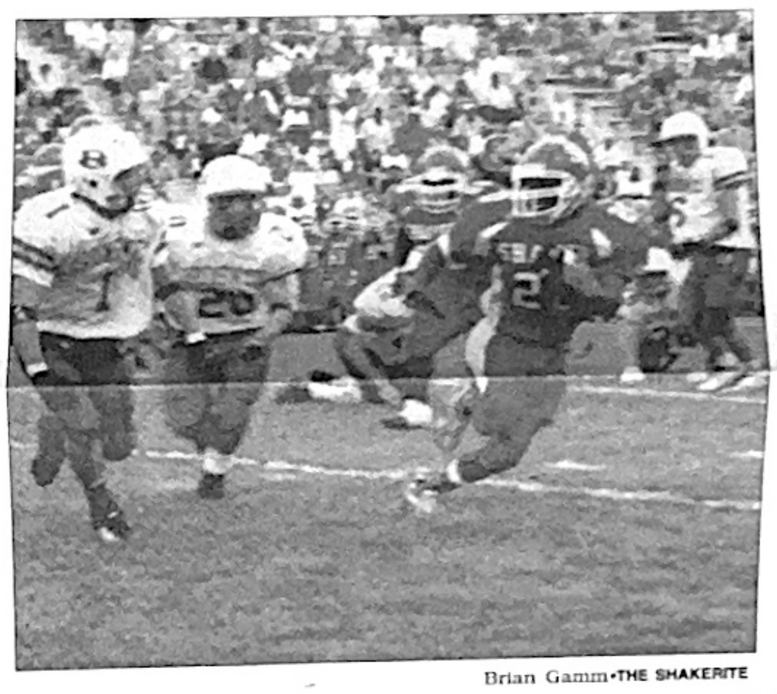
> "People haven't blossomed into their full potential..."
>
> Carl Kirtley
> sophomore

Like the North Carolina program, losses are often magnified because players not only graduate, they also leave school early for professional teams.

The Tar Heels face a towering obstacle to repeated success next year as they attempt to fill the spots left by both the graduating seniors and the four underclassmen headed for the NBA.

Like teams at the collegiate level, Shaker sports also face the challenge of filling the spots graduating seniors leave behind, but sophomore Carl Kirtley, who played defensive back on the JV football team, thinks that won't be a problem next year.

"I feel that while this year's seniors are good, people haven't blossomed into their full potential, and when they do we will be right where we need to be" Kirtley said.



Brian Gamm•THE SHAKERITE

RUNNING FOR THE end zone, senior halfback Dennis Thornton slips by two Brunswick defenders. Shaker beat the Blue Devils for one victory on their path to an 8-3 season. The gridiron squad will lose 29 seniors to graduation.

Victor ranks among nation's top players

Courtesy of Julia Victor

SOPHOMORE JULIA VICTOR knees a ball away from an opponent. Victor was ranked in the top 32 sophomore and juniors in the country and is in the Olympic Development Program.

FROM VICTOR PAGE 16

"She is considered in the top 10 percent of her age," Zolgharnain said. "She is extremely aggressive and very athletic, which in women's soccer is one of the characteristics that separates the higher level players. That's how we have always rated her."

Keeping focused on soccer can prove difficult. Her intense schedule demands practices once or twice a day, four to five days a week in Mentor and Brooklyn Heights, in addition to games and tournaments on the weekends.

"[The hardest part about playing soccer is] making sure I'm keeping [my life] balanced and staying in shape. It's so easy to say I'm not going to practice today, but the people around me are making me do this," Julia said, specifically citing her brother's success as motivation.

"I guess you have to keep the love of the sport. I kind of get sick of it because I play it everyday, so you just have to love it to keep it up," she said.

Despite Julia's doubts about her own commitment, her mother Vivian Victor describes her as completely goal oriented.

"[Julia is] intense, focused, athletic, smart," said Vivian, a former dancer, runner and soccer player. "She has a goal and she's completely driven to it. This is important to her and she'll do what it takes."

According to Julia, collegiate soccer is the plan, and so far Santa Clara University, University of Connecticut and University of Miami in Florida are all possibilities.

"My parents and some of my trainers are helping me specifically get ready for different schools. Junior year we go to college showcases, and then I'll know which ones I get offers from, and by the summer before senior year I'll have my top three choices," she said.

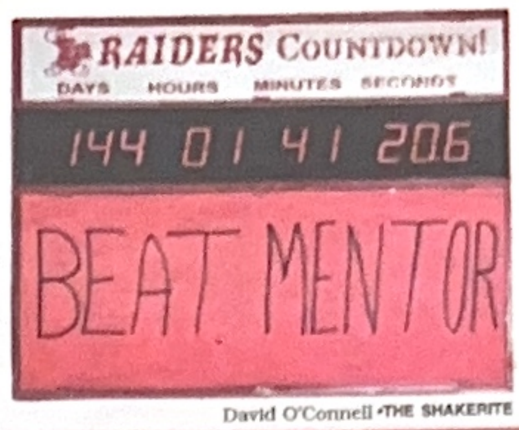
Lucky for Julia, offers are already coming in.

"The coach of Miami approached me about Julia, but I had to tell him to hold on for a little because she's only a sophomore," Zolgharnain said.

Julia said she is excited for the possibilities soccer has opened up, but also feels it has its drawbacks.

"Soccer takes away from my other interests. I can't go to summer camps. I went once and all my friends went back, but I can't because [my team] travels almost every weekend. It takes away from my social life," she said. "Sometimes I regret [playing soccer], but then I think once I get out of the Shaker bubble I'll be fine."

Shaker Heights
Teacher's Association
SHTA
Professionals
Dedicated to Educating
Shaker Youth



David O'Connell •THE SHAKERITE

THE COUNTDOWN CLOCK, located in the weight room, was football coach Dave Sedmak's idea. "I'm hoping the team wants to play them and win as bad as I do," he said.

Peer pressure pressures all

What high school student hasn't been lectured on peer pressure? Whether it comes from our teachers or parents, adults love to tell us how important it is to stand up for ourselves and have minds of our own.

EMILY GRANNIS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

At Shaker, however, the message adults are sending sounds more like "Do as I say, not as I do."

Last month, the seniors on the varsity softball team decided to foster team spirit by decorating men's "tighty-whities" underwear for younger players to wear to schoo! over our jeans. Team spirit is wearing red and white; this was hazing. I admit I wore them – and regretted it. I did what all the adults said not to do — I gave in (though I complained endlessly all day). The important thing is I learned my lesson about how it feels not to stand up for myself. Hooray! End of story. Or not.

Perhaps more troubling than the fact that EVERY member of the team wore the underwear was the reaction we drew from adults. Only one teacher complained to an administrator, and I didn't hear any such comment the day we wore them. In fact, I walked in early to one class to find one of my teammates talking with the *teacher. After the girl announced that I, too, was wearing the underwear (carefully hidden beneath a softball jacket) the teacher laughed and asked me to reveal them instead of telling us both that we had exercised poor judgment by participating in a humiliating hazing activity.*

The high school handbook states "clothing and accessories must not be a distraction to the educational process." That day guys were snickering over something other than girls' miniskirts; obviously, the underwear was distracting. Yet my teacher laughed and wanted to see them. Another teacher asked one of my teammates to stand up and twirl for the class. Not only is such a request from an educator inappropriate in general, but in this case it only compounded the distraction and humiliation to which players were already susceptible.

Since that day, a few teachers have expressed mild disapproval about the incident, and some said it is a coaching issue. Why didn't the softball coach intervene to prevent younger players from humiliation? A coach is just an adult who works with us for several hours a day. That's who a teacher is, too. My teachers have worked with me for seven months. If they can't tell me my attire is inappropriate, how can they expect the coach to? Just as I wore the underwear to avoid ridicule from my teammates, teachers yielded to pressure and remained quiet about our attire. As long as no one else was complaining, they wouldn't, either.

So it's good that I've learned how awful it feels to do something you don't believe in, and I urge everyone to think about why you're really cooperating with hazing. But teachers, your job is to teach us not only by instruction, but also by example. Take your own advice, stand up and say so when you think something is wrong. Maybe students would be less likely to give in to peer pressure if we could see you do it, too.

One goal for little warrior

• Victor's hard work has Olympic, collge soccer in sight

By Aviva Ariel
EDITOR IN CHIEF

For Julia Victor, following in her brother's footsteps doesn't mean just playing with G.I. Joes and dump-trucks.

The sophomore soccer player is currently in an Olympic Development Program with her goal set on getting a full scholarship to a Division I school. Her brother, senior Nate Victor, played soccer for Shaker throughout high school and plans to try out for the team at Kalamazoo College next year.

"I set an example," said Nate, who started playing with Julia when he was 6. "Back in the day she always wanted to do the same things I did. I wanted to play soccer, so she wanted to play soccer."

Nate described his sister as driven, and noted that she has a knack for the sport.

"I call her 'the little warrior,'" said Kia Zolgharnain, the director of coaching at Cleveland Soccer Academy, who coaches Julia's Junior Pro Team. "She plays like a boy! She's fearless."

Julia is ranked among the top 32 high school sophomores and juniors in the country.

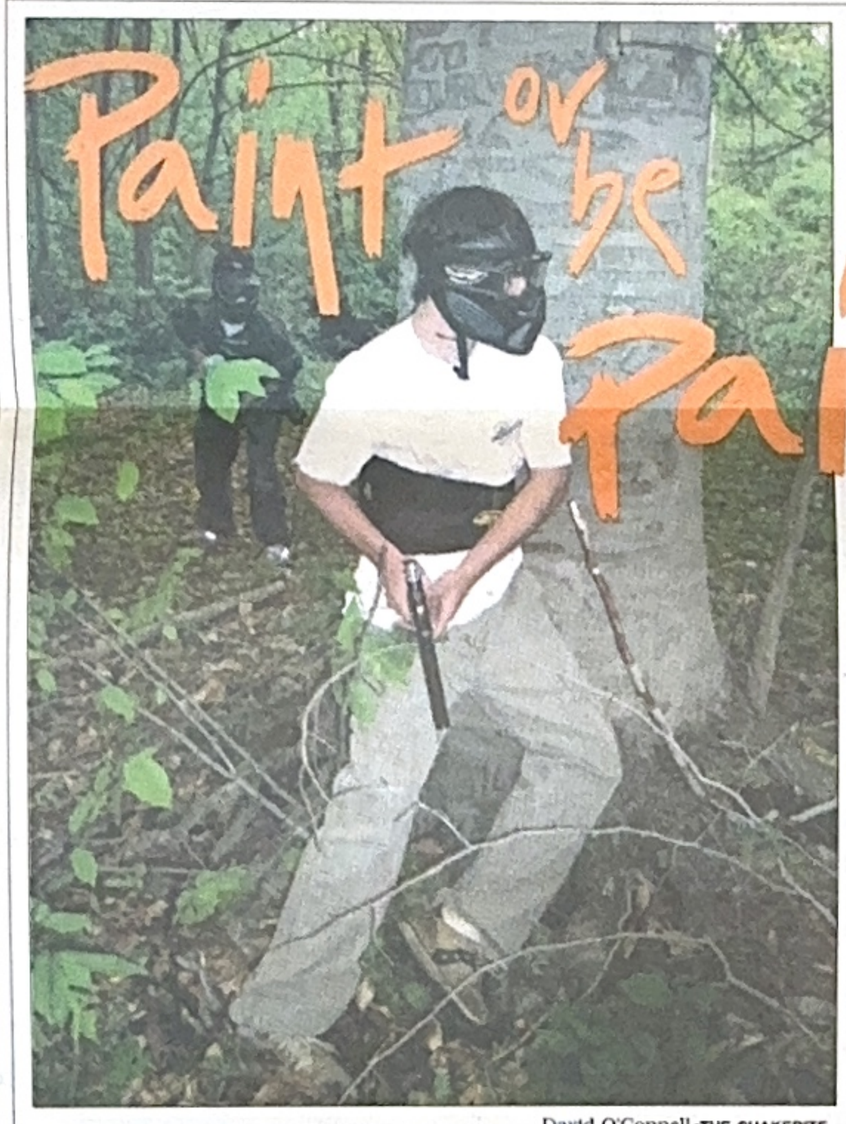
"The top 18 [in ODP] are put on a team, and we go to a regional and a national camp to compete against the other teams from other states in front of college coaches," said Julia, who plays forward and center midfield.

Zolgharain believes that Victor is a very promising player.

SEE VICTOR PAGE 11

Courtesy of Julia Victor

LOOKING FOR ROOM to dribble, sophomore Julia Victor attempts to pass a defender during a match.



David O'Connell •THE SHAKERITE

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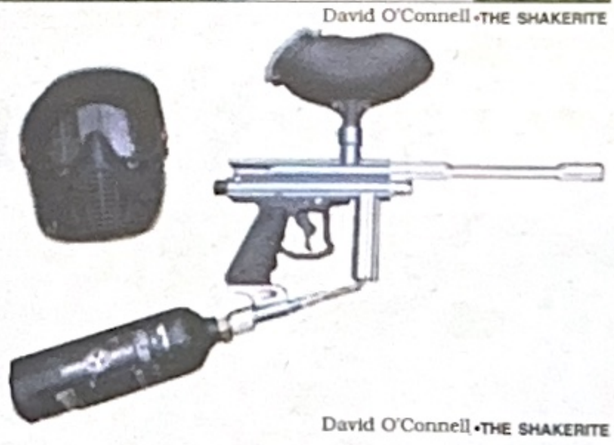

David O'Connell •THE SHAKERITE

STANDING FAST, FRESHMAN Neil Nash looks around a tree while classmate Alex Powell trails behind. Paintball players use a variety of equipment, *including a paintball mask, gun and harness* (modeled by Nash) for quick reloads during a game. Below, Powell takes cover behind a tree while lining up his shot.

• Paintball attracts people with fast action and thrill of the hunt

By David O'Connell
SPORTS EDITOR

You probably wouldn't deem paintball a safe sport, but consider this: paintball is safer than bowling.

A safety record from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System found that paintball had .24 injuries per 1,000 participants in 2000. The list rates archery, boating and bowling as riskier than paintball.

Nevertheless, being hit with a paintball does pain and can cause bruises. Freshman Neil Nash, who has been playing for three years, doesn't hesitate despite the risk. He believes using a mask makes the game safer.

"The only way to get seriously hurt is to not wear your mask," he said.

Freshman Alex Powell, who has played for four years, shares Nash's opinions.

"It's not a big deal [to be hit]," Powell said.

Senior Gabe Mack, who has played for five years, believes people may avoid to play because of the risks.

"People are scared to be lit up," Mack said, adding that it's fun to shoot people in games.

Paintball technology was not originally developed for sport. A gas-pressured gun was created in the '70s for farmers and ranchers to mark trees or cattle with paint. The first game was played in 1981, when 12 friends in New Hampshire played a game of capture the flag using the "tree-marking guns." The game has grown into a multi-million dollar sport with amateur and professional tournaments across the country.

Players crawl, kneel, run and use almost any dynamic action to avoid being hit. Powell believes being in physical shape is as vital as team strategy.

"You have to have some conditioning. There's a lot of running," he said.

Although Powell hasn't seen too many females play paintball, women are participating in increasing numbers. The Femme Fatales are one of the few all-female amateur paintball teams in the country.

The paintball itself is not made of paint but of soft gelatin capsules containing a mixture of vegetable oil and food coloring. Players usually wear camouflage as most games are played outdoors. Paintball guns use carbon dioxide, nitrogen or compressed air tanks to fire paintballs.

A full paintball ensemble can cost $2,000 - 5,000. For Nash, the high price is worth the experience.

"There's no feeling like playing paintball," he said. "There's such an adrenaline rush you get from playing."